

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
WESTERN DISTRICT OF NORTH CAROLINA

CIVIL ACTION NO.: 3:15-cv-467

RICKY A. THOMAS, )  
                        )  
                        )  
PLAINTIFF,         )  
                        )  
VS.                 )  
                        )  
CAROLYN W. COLVIN, )  
ACTING COMMISSIONER OF )  
SOCIAL SECURITY,    )  
                        )  
DEFENDANT.         )

**THIS MATTER IS BEFORE THE COURT** on Plaintiff's Consent Motion for Fees Under the Equal Access to Justice Act 28 U.S.C. § 2412(d)(1)(A) filed on October 18, 2016. (Doc. No. 17.) Having reviewed the motion, supporting materials, memorandum in support, and the case file the Court determines that Plaintiff should be awarded an attorney's fee under the Equal Access to Justice Act ("EAJA"), 28 U.S.C. § 2412(d), in the amount of \$5,250.00, which is the amount agreed upon by the parties.

**IT IS ORDERED** that the Plaintiff's Motion for Fees Under the Equal Access to Justice Act 28 U.S.C. § 2412(d)(1)(A) filed is **GRANTED**, to the extent that the Court will award attorney fees in the amount of \$5,250.00, and that pursuant to Comm'r of Soc. Sec. v. Ratliff, 560 U.S. (2010), the fee award will first be subject to offset of any debt Plaintiff may owe to the United States. The Commissioner will determine whether Plaintiff owes a debt to the United States. If so, the debt will be satisfied first, and if any funds remain, they will be made payable to Plaintiff and mailed to Plaintiff's counsel. If the United States Department of the Treasury reports to the Commissioner that the Plaintiff does not owe a federal debt, the government will exercise its

discretion and honor an assignment of EAJA fees, and pay the awarded fees directly to Plaintiff's counsel. No additional petition pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 2412(d) shall be filed.

IT IS SO ORDERED.

Signed: October 19, 2016



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Frank D. Whitney  
Chief United States District Judge

